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REMARKS

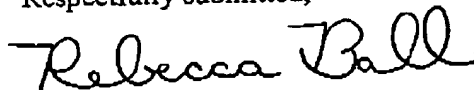
The Examiner has rejected claims 4-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by WO 96/24661. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. Claims 4-15 are not anticipated by WO 96/24661.

Anticipation exists only if all the elements of the claimed invention are present in a product or process disclosed, expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. *Hazeltine Corp. v. RCA Corp.*, 468 U.S. 1228 (1984). Each of independent claims 4 and 10 in the above-captioned application require contacting eukaryotic cells with a growth substrate comprising *stomach submucosal tissue*. WO 96/24661 does not disclose *stomach submucosal tissue*. In fact, the word stomach is not found in WO 96/24661. Thus, WO 96/24661 does not disclose a required element of independent claim 4, and its dependent claims 5-9, or of independent claim 10, and its dependent claims 11-15. Accordingly, WO 96/24661 cannot anticipate claims 4-15 of the instant application. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing remarks are believed to fully respond to the Examiner's rejection. The claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims, and passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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